## **REMARKS**

This preliminary amendment is being filed prior to the first substantive office action. Applicant respectively submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and courteously requests notice that such claims are deemed allowable. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen W. Groenke

Registration No. 42,608

Customer No. 22859
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
4000 Pillsbury Center
200 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-1425 USA

Telephone: (612) 492-7000 Facsimile: (612) 492-7077

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to grant any extensions of time and to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 06-1910.

## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 317158765 US. Date of Deposit: January 6, 2004. I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Stacy Bickel
Name of Person Making Deposit

Signature

#2907848\1